

A NEW MOTH FROM PATAGONIA

(LEPIDOPTERA PHALAENIDAE)

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Among some very interesting material recently received from Dr. Holger Holgersen, of the Stravanger Museum, Norway, for identification were two striking, apparently new, moths of the subfamily Agrotinae (Phalaenidae) from Punta Arenas, Chile. One is described below, but the other is in too poor a condition to serve as the type of a new species.

Euxoamorpha, new genusTYPE: *Euxoamorpha eschata* Franc.

Head prominent; front rounded, without modifications; antennae ciliate in male; eyes ovoid, lashed, the lashes long; palpi oblique, ascending to two-thirds height of eye, clothed with narrow scales and fringed with hairlike scales; proboscis well developed. Thorax clothed with hair and deeply forked scales; fore tibia with 2-4 inner spines and 2-3 outer spines, the two distal ones long and moderately stout; mid tibia with two rows of moderate spines on the outer side; hind tibia with 4-5 weak spines on the outer side between the two pairs of spurs; fore wings linear trigonate; venation as in *Agrotis*.

Male genitalia with the arms of the tegumen short and broad; arms of vinculum moderately long and narrow, saccus of vinculum bulbous; uncus divided from near base into two stout curved arms; the apices rounded with short stout setae; valves symmetrical, apices truncate; corona occupying upper half of apex, composed of moderate spines; elasper stout and long; ampulla weak and long; sacculus with a swollen setose area at base; juxta small, rhomboidal; aedeagus long and stout, vesica armed with long slender spines, the most basal one with a stout bulbous base.

The combination of lashed eyes, limited spination of the hind tibiae, bifid uncus, and position of the ampulla and elasper of the male genitalia will distinguish this genus from all others in the Argotinae.

Euxoamorpha eschata, new species

Fore wings gray with a greenish overcast; the median area between the t. a. and t. p. lines blackish; the reniform and orbicular small and pale; the basal line black and irregular; the t. p. line black, strongly outcurved below costa and inwardly oblique below vein 4. Thorax concolorous with the ground color of fore wings, with some bright yellow scales scattered among the vestiture. Hind wings uniform blackish gray.

Male genitalia, Figure 1.

TYPE: ♂, Punta Arenas, CHILE mer., H. Holgersen, "Brategg" exp., 30 xi - 2. xii. 47. USNM Type No. 59231.

The characters mentioned as distinguishing the genus will also serve to separate the species from those of the other genera of Agrotinae with lashed eyes.

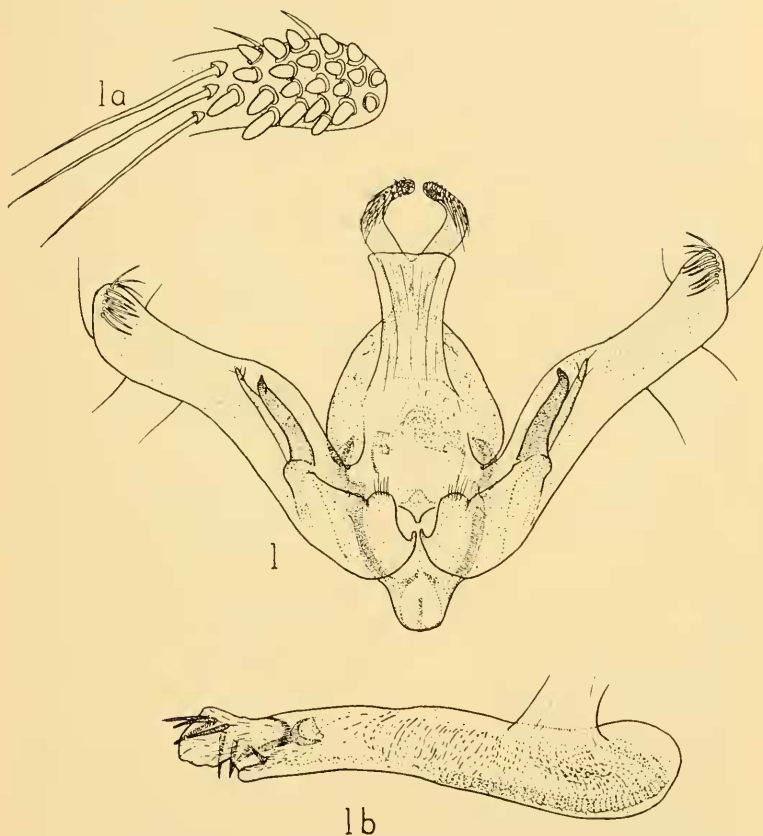


Fig. 1, male genitalia of *Euxoamorpha eschata* Franc.; fig. 1a, apex of left arm of uncus; fig 1b, aedeagus.